

**Whitefish River First Nation
Cannabis Conference
and Discussion Forum
Final Report**

October, 2018



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Executive Summary

Community Backgrounder

October 17th, 2018 quickly became a topic of hot debate in Canada and locally within the First Nation community of Whitefish River First Nation (WRFN). Like other Anishinabek communities, Whitefish River First Nation was not properly consulted and therefore, left uninformed about implications of the impending legalization of cannabis and the impact within the community. It is for this reason that an initial dialogue was planned with the WRFN community on October 13 and 14, 2018 at the Manitoulin Hotel and Conference Centre. This unique way of engaging the community was also developed as a result of a community-wide moratorium on cannabis enacted by WRFN First Nation Chief and Council on August 26, 2018.

This moratorium, in Band Council Resolution (BCR) format, explicitly spelled-out that cannabis cultivation, manufacturing, and sales would not be permitted within the First Nation boundaries. Further, the BCR also specified that the moratorium would remain in place until WRFN had the opportunity to consult with the community and to further enact laws with respect to cannabis sales and distribution in the WRFN territory.

Therefore, the conference effort was a planned event, which was taken cautiously in an attempt to gather information and exchange knowledge in the best interests of the citizens of WRFN. This process was set out in the moratorium notice of August 26, 2018 which contained broad indication about how WRFN was respectfully proceeding in terms of gathering information and disseminating this new knowledge related to cannabis.

Thus, this conference, entitled the "Whitefish River First Nation Cannabis Conference and Dialogue Session" attracted 41 young and elderly WRFN members and 10 Federal and Provincial presenters to the event. A true knowledge exchange occurred where people came together to obtain education, converse and to deliberate areas requiring further development. In this regard, it can be deemed as a successful gathering that was truly a learning forum founded upon cultural values, customs and ideas.

This report showcases the beginning knowledge and attitudes that individuals possessed prior to participation in the conference, the perceived quality and content of the conference itself, and follow-up items stemming from the valuable community dialogue, including practical engagement advice for future use.



Beginning Knowledge, Perception and Attitudes Participant Questionnaire

The pre-conference survey was administered to conference participants on Saturday, October 13th, 2018 before the conference start time. The data collection contained within this report was administered so that the WRFN would have baseline data in terms of knowledge, perception and attitudes regarding cannabis prior to the legalization date of October 17th, 2018. The survey yielded at 80% response rate from those in attendance at the Conference. Below is a summary of 15 questions related to Cannabis Knowledge, Perception and Attitudes.

Q. 1: I feel that.....

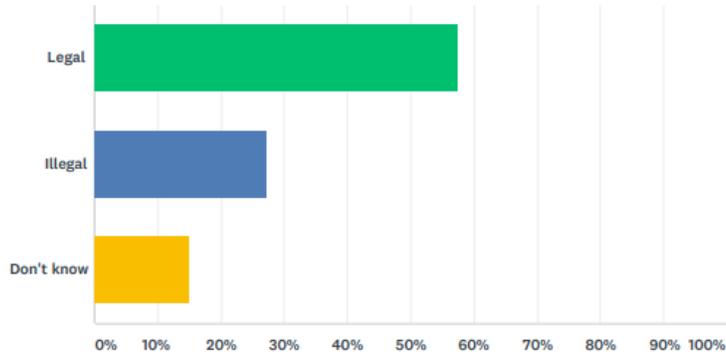
	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE SOMEWHAT	NEITHER AGREE OR DISAGREE	DISAGREE SOMEWHAT	STRONGLY DISAGREE	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
People usually have a good time when they use cannabis	17.65% 6	29.41% 10	17.65% 6	11.76% 4	0.00% 0	23.53% 8	34
Cannabis is a dangerous drug	11.43% 4	22.86% 8	11.43% 4	14.29% 5	31.43% 11	8.57% 3	35
Cannabis is a problem in our community	20.59% 7	20.59% 7	8.82% 3	17.65% 6	8.82% 3	23.53% 8	34
You would be concerned if friends or family were using cannabis	22.86% 8	34.29% 12	20.00% 7	5.71% 2	17.14% 6	0.00% 0	35
You would use cannabis if a friend offered it to you	17.14% 6	8.57% 3	5.71% 2	5.71% 2	60.00% 21	2.86% 1	35
You would use cannabis if someone you didn't know offered it to you at a party	14.29% 5	0.00% 0	5.71% 2	8.57% 3	68.57% 24	2.86% 1	35
Using cannabis once a month is not dangerous	17.14% 6	11.43% 4	25.71% 9	11.43% 4	17.14% 6	17.14% 6	35
people under 18 years old should not use cannabis	60.00% 21	17.14% 6	8.57% 3	5.71% 2	5.71% 2	2.86% 1	35
Cannabis use may result in dependence	26.47% 9	32.35% 11	11.76% 4	11.76% 4	14.71% 5	2.94% 1	34
There is a clear link between cannabis and mental health problems	28.57% 10	8.57% 3	22.86% 8	5.71% 2	11.43% 4	22.86% 8	35

- **41% of people felt that Cannabis was a problem in the community, while 31% were unsure if it was a problem!**
- **57% would be concerned if someone in their family began using cannabis.**
- **46% felt that cannabis wasn't a dangerous drug and 34% felt cannabis was dangerous.**
- **59% felt that cannabis use results in dependence.**
- **37% agreed that there is a clear link to mental health problems while 23% were uncertain if there was this established link.**



Q2 In your opinion should it be legal or illegal for an adult to grow cannabis for personal use?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 2



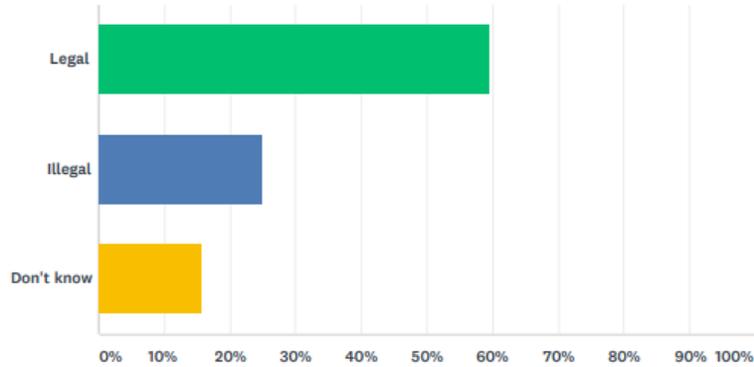
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Legal	57.58% 19
Illegal	27.27% 9
Don't know	15.15% 5
TOTAL	33

- ***A majority of people viewed growing cannabis for personal use acceptable and the same number viewed possession of 100 g for personal use as acceptable.***



Q3 In your opinion, should it be legal or illegal for an adult to possess a small amount (100 g) of cannabis for personal use?

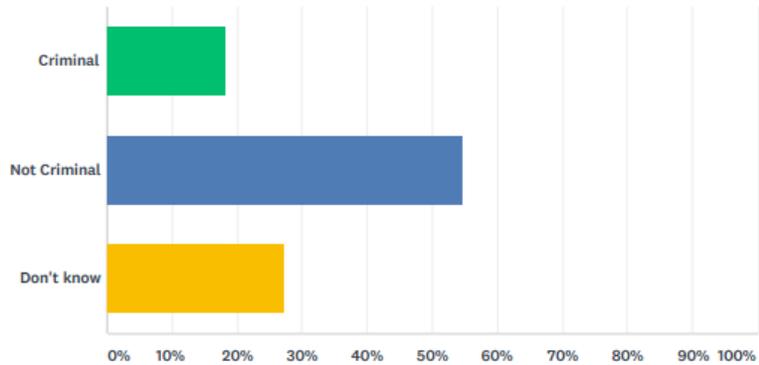
Answered: 32 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Legal	59.38%	19
Illegal	25.00%	8
Don't know	15.63%	5
TOTAL		32

Q4 Do you think that growing 2 cannabis plants should or should not be a criminal offense? This means, if convicted, the person will have a criminal record.

Answered: 33 Skipped: 2



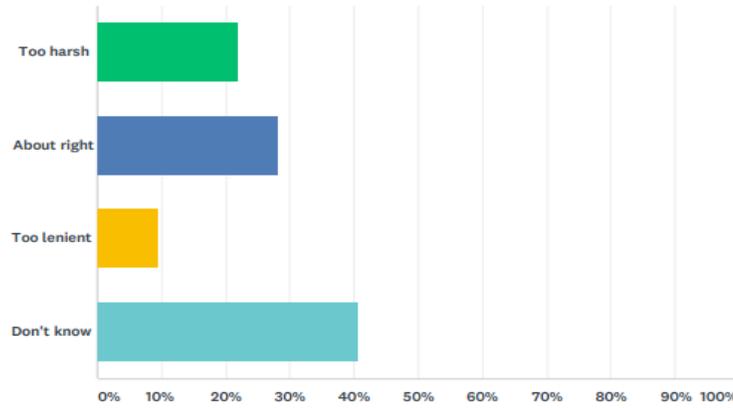
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Criminal	18.18%	6
Not Criminal	54.55%	18
Don't know	27.27%	9
TOTAL		33



- **55% (majority) of attendees thought that growing two cannabis plants was acceptable.**

Q5 Do you think that the current laws concerning possession and growing of cannabis are:

Answered: 32 Skipped: 3



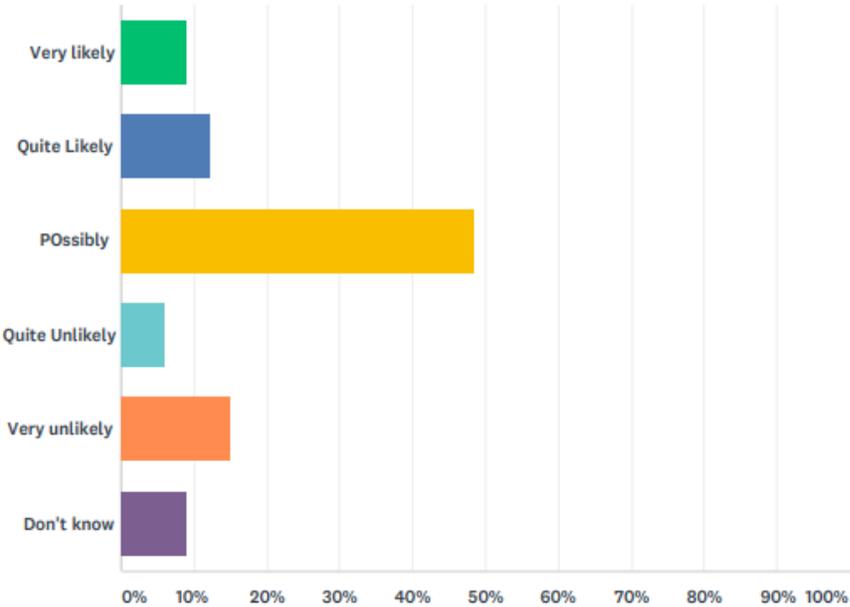
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Too harsh	21.88%	7
About right	28.13%	9
Too lenient	9.38%	3
Don't know	40.63%	13
TOTAL		32

- **Many participants were undecided (41%) about current laws.**



Q6 If someone was breaking the law regarding dealing or selling of cannabis, how likely do you think it is that they will be caught?

Answered: 33 Skipped: 2



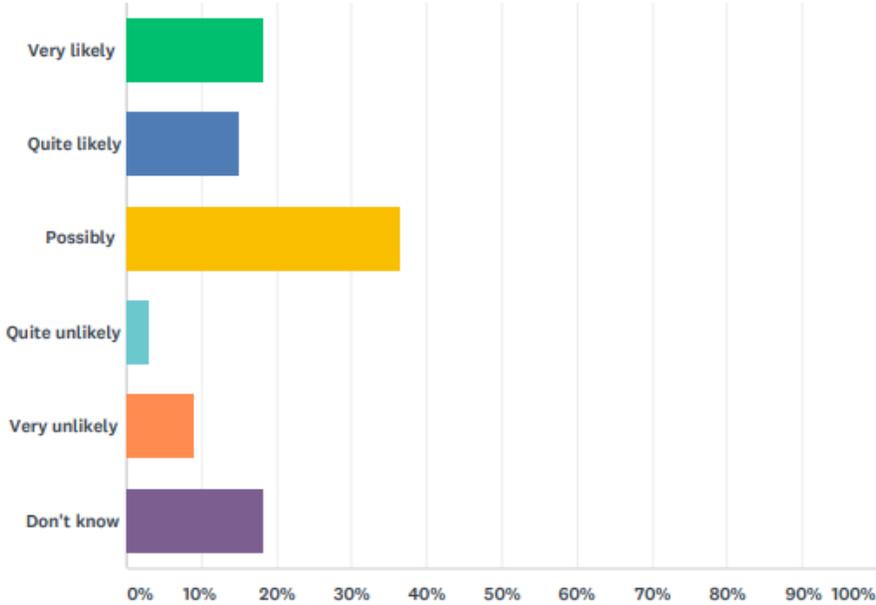
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely	9.09%	3
Quite Likely	12.12%	4
Possibly	48.48%	16
Quite Unlikely	6.06%	2
Very unlikely	15.15%	5
Don't know	9.09%	3
TOTAL		33

- 70% of participants felt it likely that someone who was illegally dealing or selling cannabis would get caught.***



Q7 Do you think people are less likely to reuse cannabis if given education rather than a criminal record

Answered: 33 Skipped: 2



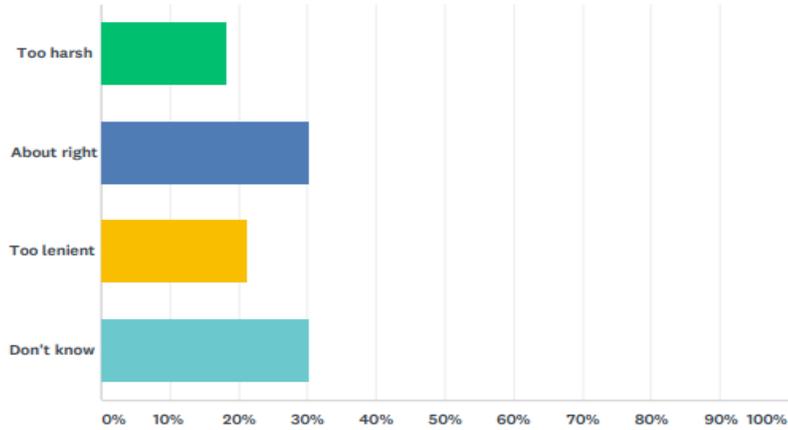
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely	18.18%	6
Quite likely	15.15%	5
Possibly	36.36%	12
Quite unlikely	3.03%	1
Very unlikely	9.09%	3
Don't know	18.18%	6
TOTAL		33

- ***70% of people felt that individuals would benefit from cannabis education versus a criminal record.***
- ***18% were unsure if cannabis education would be helpful.***



Q8 Do you think the current law concerning the dealing or selling of cannabis are:

Answered: 33 Skipped: 2



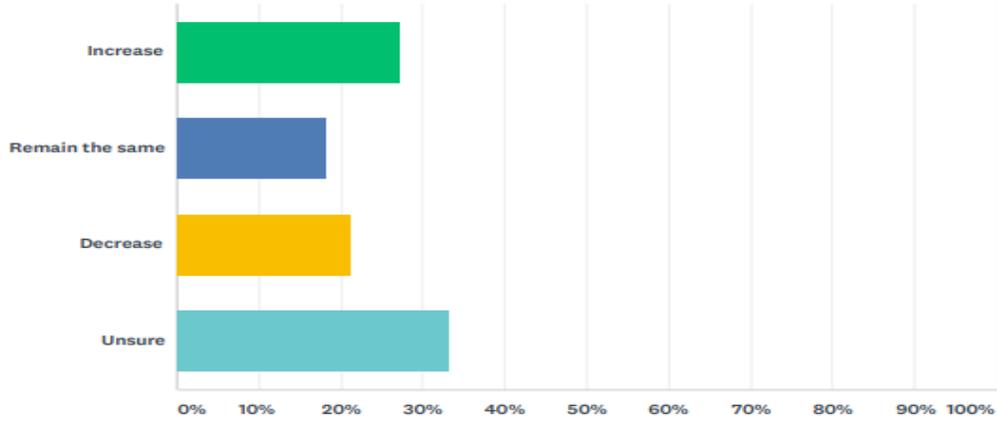
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Too harsh	18.18%	6
About right	30.30%	10
Too lenient	21.21%	7
Don't know	30.30%	10
TOTAL		33

- ***Each answer choice concerning the current cannabis laws are almost uniform, which suggests that there is uncertainty and conflict in attitude regarding current law and impending law.***



Q9 The cost of purchasing cannabis after legalization will

Answered: 33 Skipped: 2

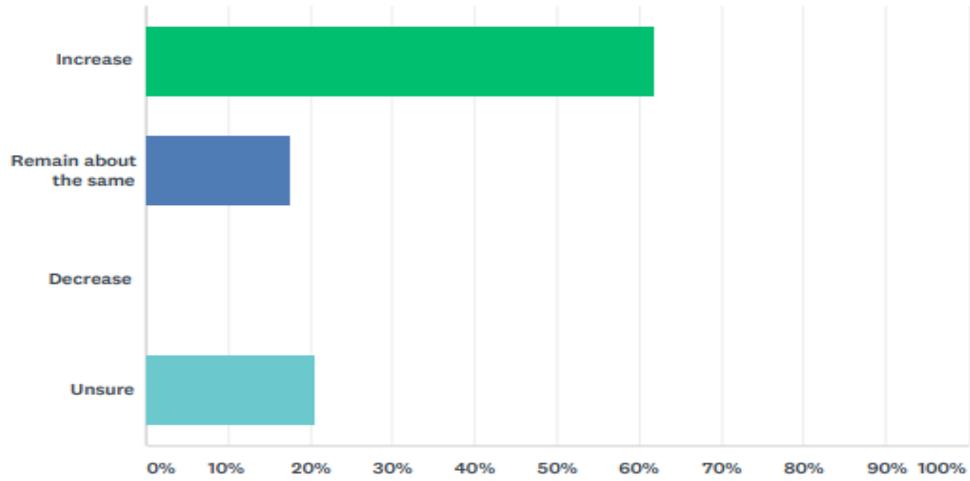


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increase	27.27%	9
Remain the same	18.18%	6
Decrease	21.21%	7
Unsure	33.33%	11
TOTAL		33



Q11 The number of people growing their own cannabis will:

Answered: 34 Skipped: 1

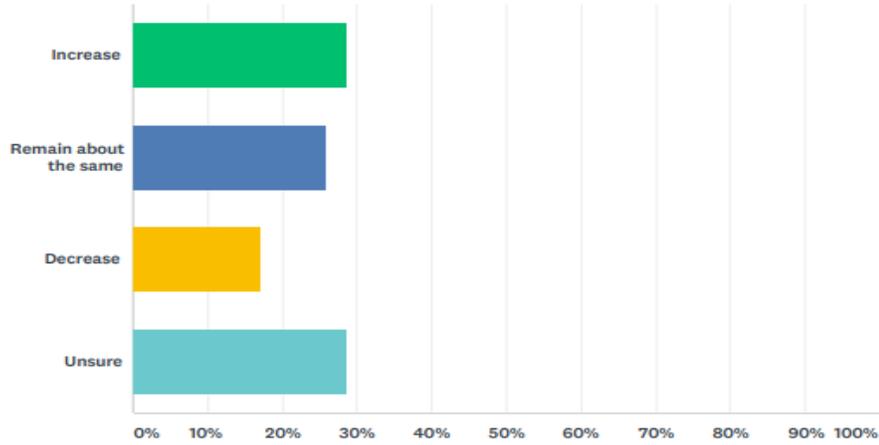


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increase	61.76%	21
Remain about the same	17.65%	6
Decrease	0.00%	0
Unsure	20.59%	7
TOTAL		34



Q12 Under the proposed changes to the cannabis laws, the amount of contact cannabis users will have with criminals when obtaining cannabis will:

Answered: 35 Skipped: 0

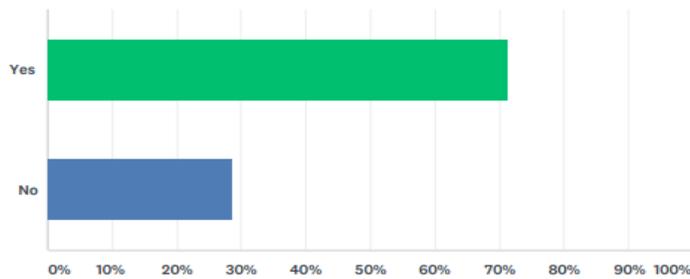


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Increase	28.57%	10
Remain about the same	25.71%	9
Decrease	17.14%	6
Unsure	28.57%	10
TOTAL		35

- **29% of people felt that there may be more of a hike in contact with criminals when obtaining cannabis after the legislation and the same amount (29% were unsure).**

Q13 Have you ever used cannabis?

Answered: 35 Skipped: 0

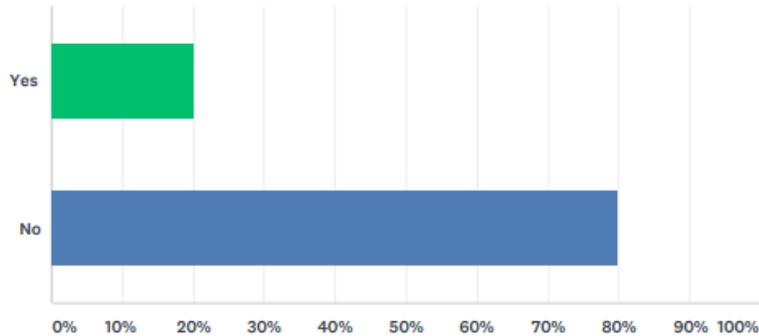


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	71.43%	25
No	28.57%	10
TOTAL		35



Q14 Have you used cannabis within the last twelve (12) months?

Answered: 35 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	20.00%	7
No	80.00%	28
TOTAL		35

- ***71% of participants reported that they had used cannabis before previously but 80% of those report that they haven't used in the last year, suggesting that they are not regular users.***
- ***94% of people who have used in the past- have not grown cannabis on their own.***
- ***45% have indicated that their current level of usage (non-usage) will not change.***
- ***34% of people indicate that they do not know if their current level of usage (non-usage) will change as a result of legalization.***
- ***Of the 20% who have used cannabis within the last 12 months, only 13% indicated that their level of cannabis use will increase as a result of upcoming legalization.***



Q15. Why or Why Haven't you used Cannabis within the last 12 months?:

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
It's illegal	18.18%	6
No desire to use	45.45%	15
My friends don't use it	0.00%	0
Grew out of it, too old	3.03%	1
Concerned my parents might find out	0.00%	0
Concerned about the health effects	3.03%	1
Concerned about the psychological effects	0.00%	0
Can have a good time without it	0.00%	0
Concern about becoming addicted to it	0.00%	0
Prefer to use alcohol	6.06%	2
Prefer to use other drugs	0.00%	0
Concern about being caught	0.00%	0
Cost/Can't afford it	3.03%	1
Can't obtain it	0.00%	0
Lack of opportunity	0.00%	0
Never been offered it	0.00%	0
Don't need it	3.03%	1
Concerned about moving on to more dangerous drugs	0.00%	0
Other	0.00%	0
Other (Please Specify):	18.18%	6
TOTAL		33

- ***The majority of people (45%) do not use cannabis and have no desire to use it.***
- ***Other comments (18%):***
- ***Cannabis interferes with traditional activities and ceremonies***
- ***No fun smoking cannabis/ Still view it as illegal!***



Recap of the Event

Day 1: Presentations- Saturday, October 13, 2018

Gloria Oshkawabisens McGregor, community member and elder for the conference began with a spiritual prayer that served as a grounding point. It is from here that forty-one (41) WRFN members began a seven-hour learning process about cannabis.

At the start of the first day, participants were involved table-top discussions of the values and attributes that make Whitefish River strong as a community. People shared the following items that made WRFN remarkable:



- Spirit of volunteerism and community helpers.
 - Our beautiful water and lands
 - The abundance of sacred grounds, including Dreamers Rock and Bell Rocks
 - Harvesting, hunting, fishing – exercising treaty and sovereignty rights
 - Camaraderie and laughter amongst everyone
 - Interconnectedness- recognizing that we are all connected in one way or another and this is apparent when we help one another.
 - Nurturing one another which is evident in the strong support for Shawanosowe School.
- Community pride and recognition by others about our community – we are a friendly, educated and forward-thinking community
 - Recognition that there are many gifted individuals in our community- eg. Artisans, fisherman, etc.
 - Great things happen when we stand up for things that are important to all of us.





One of the best presentations that was reported by conference participants was a presentation prepared by Dr. Lionel Marks de Chabris, an Ontario physician with a practice focus in Pain Medicine and Addiction Medicine. Dr. Lionel shared the story of

cannabis versus marijuana and described its history as well as why it had been banished by the medical community for the past century. He described the difference between THC and CBD and explained how these two compounds are equally important and appear in different proportions depending on the medicine and noted that instead of having the stance “Just say no” he suggests we change this to “Just say know.”

Karrie-Anne Jones, Public Health Sudbury and Districts (PHSD), shared a perspective from a public health lens which seeks to promote good health, prevent harmful health behaviours and protect people from diseases. She also shared Canada’s low risk use guidelines and emphasized once again the “start low and go slow” approach to cannabis use.

Meanwhile, Laurie Lafontaine provided great teachings to the crowd in terms of demystifying the Canada Cannabis Act. She gave an overview of how the Act will ensure that access to cannabis by youth will be controlled, how there will be oversight and inspections of supply by the federal government and that there will be strict regulation of the supply chain (eg. Retail regime and enforcement will fall under the regulation of each Province), with established penalties for violations. Overall, the federal government’s role is to educate, protect, prevent and monitor cannabis use.



From a provincial standpoint, Ashley Collins from the Ministry of Attorney General provided an overview of the Provincial Cannabis Act. The Act will prohibit sales to anyone under 19; youth are prohibited from possessing, consuming or cultivating



cannabis. Further, it outlines the framework for the retail environment and as such, it also addresses illegal selling and enforcement. An interesting part of her presentation is that a provision within the Act allows youth to be diverted from the Criminal Justice System. Ashley noted that there are specific provisions that allow a First Nation to opt out of retail and which will also respect any community's Band Council Resolution (BCR) concerning cannabis selling whether in retail storefront or online.

Rodney Nahwegahbow from UCCMM Police and Gerry Filipov from OPP spoke primarily about law enforcement and penalties. They highlighted that highlighted that along with cannabis retailing is the potential for infiltration by organized



crime groups. A challenge, they noted, was that there are specifics with respect to enforcement and penalties that need to be ironed out. They did reinforce the directive of adhering to a First



Nation's wishes with respect to cannabis sales and illegal dispensaries.



Finally, participants were treated to two case studies at the conclusion of the first day of the conference from Makayla Hill from Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory and Leslie McGregor, Health and Social Services Manager from Whitefish River First Nation. Makayla shared many cautions from first-hand knowledge of cannabis dispensaries operating in their traditional territory. She premised this discussion by noting that cannabis is not a part of culture and therefore, should not be normalized. Regardless, there are many issues regarding these illegal dispensaries because access is open and unprotected thereby causing harm and raising safety issues within the community. At a broader level, the dispensaries are offensive, misappropriate aspects of indigenous culture and

lowering collective community identity.



Leslie McGregor began her own precautionary analysis of cannabis by speaking about tobacco and the positive promotions of the past. She described how society has embraced tobacco and now we are feeling the health impacts in our communities with cancer, and a

myriad of other illnesses. So, there is danger as well in how substances become normalized within society as-a-whole, especially with regard to the air we breathe and the land we have been entrusted to care for!



She reminded everyone about the mental health and addictive impacts of cannabis, the “crutch” that cannabis provides to people with who never build their resiliency to certain events, problems associated with the fact that once cannabis is socially accepted, individuals can access street drugs which can be laced with other potentially fatal drugs and accidental deaths.

The WRFN Health Manager punctuated the following health risks:

- THC in your body. You’re only high for a few hours but chemical traces of marijuana, called THC metabolites stay in your body for a month or more. THC metabolites are stored in the brain, testes, ovaries, and other fatty organs, and are detectable by urine tests.
- Lungs. Marijuana smoke irritates the throat and lungs and has twice as much “tar” as cigarette smoke. Frequent use is linked to an increased risk of lung cancer, bronchitis, and emphysema.
- Brain. Marijuana inhibits short-term memory, slows reaction time, and impairs visual tracking (the ability to follow moving objectives accurately). Frequent use is also linked to cognitive impairments (an inability to abstract and understand concepts).
- Health. Marijuana speeds a user’s heartbeat as much as 50% while high, an increased risk for anyone with heart disease.



Day 2: Community Sharing Exercises- Sunday, October 14, 2018

Community Next Steps and Recommendations

Upon completion of the educational presentations on the first day, the group broke out into 3 distinct community groups: 1) Community, 2) Parents/Youth and 3) Elders. These were facilitated by different facilitators and transcribers. The notes are attached from each group.

At the culmination of the conference, a “Next Steps” forum with everyone in the room was held and moderated by Mariette McGregor Sutherland.

In simple terms, here is the **three (3) outcomes for Next Steps**:

1/ Education Component:

- Three pronged-educational approach for: 1) Elders, 2) Children and Youth and 3) Parents
- Participants felt strongly about bringing Dr. Lionel back for all community to learn from his presentation
- Information Point Person on Cannabis (this could be Health Promotion or Cannabis Consultation Coordinator, etc)
- Need information in community newsletter
- Use all mechanisms to reach community people
- Information about funding proposals- WRFN can access- WRFN does have a proposal in to Health Canada under this stream of funding
- Future sessions to include information about social effects, public safety, jurisdictional, law, economic, ongoing health effects/addictions, and Traditional knowledge. Want relevant guest speakers like Dispensary spokesperson (Stevenson), Youth- Recovering addict, target youth in new way. Traditional knowledge and dissemination is very important and imperative!
- Send out cannabis information to parents- blitz by October 17th.
- Policies on multiple levels- need presentations in all areas so that all community members can be informed prior to developing policies, laws, regulations.

2/Task Force Formation:

- Based on wholistic worldview- Spiritual, Mental, Physical, Emotional



- Link with External sectors ie. Partner with schools
- Composition:
Leader, Elder, Parent, Youth, Economic Development/Education Manager, Law Enforcement, User: Medicinal, User: Recreational, Visiting Health Professional and Addiction Worker- 10-11 Total.
- Orientation- Make sure that all Task Force has all the same level of training/knowledge info on Cannabis
- Terms of Reference developed (Agenda, timeframe, meeting dates, length, Purpose)
- Make sure that there is an admin person to support this initiative for follow-up, resource development etc.
- Purpose of Task Force: 1) To guide future education awareness sessions for WRFN community, 2) To gather community input and prioritize community issues and make recommendations to Council, 3) Make a workplan and 4) Respond to recommendations and lead development of Bylaw and Regulations
- Letter could be written indicating interest.

3/By-Law Formation/Regulations

- Time-period: 5-6 months (April 1, 2019 ++ as much time as needed).
- Review on or around March 1, 2019.

Other Helpful Ideas for Next Steps:

- Newsletter Outreach, Website, FB, You-tube video
- Email constant contact- A Brief on the Survey (pre-conference and post), Commentary from Chief and Moderator- written introduction/notes, ongoing community dialogue
- Community-led initiative (not administration)
- Plain language, clear communication
- Proactive planning
- Strengths-based approach
- Balanced, respectful approach- everyone respected
- SWOT-like analysis
- Ask for Contact information- constant feedback loop
- Mariette as the Chairperson of Task force



Additional Recommendations:

Upon arriving at the next steps as a group, participants were asked about further recommendations.

1. Post for a Health Promotion or Coordinator position, aligned to Health Canada Proposal
2. Post for an Administrative Support Personnel position, also aligned to Health Canada Proposal.
3. Both these above-noted positions can be used to develop health promotion expertise in the community.
4. Develop a communique and newsletter.
5. Get Health Promotion information out to community regarding cannabis by October 17th.
6. Approve Task Committee- Scope and Terms of Reference to be developed- duration as recommended by community. This requires work as soon as possible- posting, terms of reference and implementation.
7. Invite Mariette to be Chair of the Task Force- letter of invitation from Chief and Council.
8. Plan for further forums, focus groups, educational sessions, etc. on cannabis with the help of the committee/task force.
9. Invite Dr. Lionel and other guest speakers back to speak to community as soon as possible with the support of band and band funding sources. There was special emphasis on having Dr. Lionel speak to the youth.
10. Contact Health Canada regarding approval of additional funds to support community direction regarding cannabis and addictions for WRFN.
11. Develop a dedicated Cannabis newsletter for community knowledge.



Youth/Parents Summary Discussion Cannabis Conference & Community Discussion Forum

**Each group was tasked with questions from post-it notes (Parking Lot items) as talking points or were free to discuss organically.*

Facilitator: Leslie McGregor/Candice Assiniwe

Youth Parents Worries and Concerns

- Cannabis – It has physical effects on the brain, addicting, not a medicine from our culture.
- How the community will look like. Unfriendly vs Friendly environments (parks, etc.)
 - Ex. People breaking into Community Members homes
 - Fighting
 - Outdoor Rink, we try to make it clean. More exposure to drugs in front of children.
 - Inviting high traffic to bring in drugs
 - Fear about Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women
 - Human Trafficking
- Children getting asked to try out edible drugs
 - Gummy Bears
 - Chocolate
 - Cotton Candy
- Authority
 - Cannabis was illegal, and now we can't say that against the law.
- Effects
 - Brain isn't developed until 25
 - They qualify at age of 18 for medical
 - Addicting
- Levels and access
 - Better high, stronger drugs
 - They could start at 13/14-year-old, what happens when their 18/19-year-old they will move up to stronger drugs.
 - Ex. Cocaine
 - They are already accessing it at dispensary machines
- Peer Pressure
 - Family, friends are pressuring it
 - How to incorporate family values to be put in place
 - Don't want it to become normalized
 - Ex. Youth to steal cigarettes, now they will steal Cannabis
- Education



- How to prioritize receiving support to connect with 18-25-year-old who are experiencing trauma and need to use Cannabis for health and healing.
- Parents are not aware of the legal systems, or safety
 - CAS involvement
 - Second hand smoke
 - Misconception vs recreational use
 - Easy to control people – no motivation - Our leader will not want to make this a better place, they will just go with the flow.
 - Parents/Community Members buying it for children under 18
 - Ex. Parents would buy alcohol for minors if they only drink at home, now they will buy cannabis for younger generations.
- Cultural and Language
 - Doctors only prescribe Cannabis for healing
 - We need more cultural healing not Cannabis
- Money
 - Targets are Youth
 - Edible Cannabis (How can you tell if it has drugs in it)
 - Ex. Flintstone Vitamins, children think its candy.
- Big Companies & Government
 - Historical History of Genocide
 - Ex. Government giving us a blanket, now the government is giving Cannabis
 - We need to teach the children more about the history of they are doing.
- Community Helpers (Social Service Workers)
 - Making it harder for helpers to create positive changes in the Community.
 - Trusting Doctors
 - Prescribing Cannabis
 - Reality is doctors are getting pushes to promote drugs (these are the drug dealers)



Elder's Summary Discussion Cannabis Conference & Community Discussion Forum

**Each group was tasked with questions from post-it notes (Parking Lot items) as talking points or were free to discuss organically.*

Facilitator: Art Jacko

Art Jacko refers to sticky notes he summarized and spoke that these are the topics:

- Signage
- Staff
- Medicinal oils
- Cannabis shop

Facilitator states that on October 17, cannabis in B.I. is legal, nothing can be done, it will be a legal right.

- create non-smoking and Cannabis signs
- signage not helping
- smell of smoke and Cannabis harmful to health
- Include smoking in by-law
- butt cans 9 meters or 29 meters away
- designate area – parking lot
- Bingo caller to announce outlining rules where to smoke
- Public place
- Staff concerns re: smoking
- smokers will smoke in all elements – Sudbury was reference as to 3 areas of smoking area
- BM, Art: Staff – using for Medicinal or Recreational
- Drug testing
- We have our own medicine- traditional medicine
- We have to be mindful of human rights
- BM, Art: Personnel Policy- WRFN lawyer reviewing.
- Require random testing for Chief and Council as well.
- BM, Art: Drug and Alcohol Policies, providing assistance to employees
- Questions about medicinal oil. No Health Canada Coverage for usage
- A member spoke of benefits to medicinal usage how a person was able to continue to function as a human being - **Audio Recording** of story of the benefits of using as a medicinal purpose
- Western medicine for terminally ill person, person does not function as a human being
- How to keep sacred the medicinal oil



- Elders Gathering at community hall sessions to include medicine. Knowledge of all history of WRFN pictographs (Rock painting) Birch Bark scrolls, these were forms where we wrote a long time ago. New way for us is writing our history and language. Elder population we are losing. Session: Medicine picking
- Elders spoke of story of Pain Killers – going to a popular tree and picking the bud chewing till oil comes and spitting out bud and swallowing oil and this fixed pain.
- Cannabis will this become an addiction ; will this be an issue ;
- Everyone reacts to all medicine differently, we are not made the same, prescription medicine
- Dispensary- Cannabis Shop on WRFN is this something we want?
- Response: No
- Will this be legal on reserve
- Beer and liquor store-- we don't have
- what other drug store can be on reserve?
- Tobacco stores/shops-- we should of put a stop to that as well.
- Danger of Money talks – a clerk looking at the money before the person, will sell to anyone.
- We don't have a drug store to pick up prescription, we have to go to Little Current to pick up.
- Personal shop – should follow regulations/community.
- Business is a business
- I don't know, after answering yesterday Saturday the survey, I still don't know
- Our reserve is a dry reserve “we are supposed to be” alcohol is in the community.
- pain medication is on reserve
- too many issues in community “speeding”, alcohol abuse.



ELDERS

DO WE HAVE COMMUNITY
SUPPORT TO PRESERVE
OR RESTORE COMMUNITY
BIBLICAL? Should the
Guns Replace them? or
to include the voices of
working women?

DO YOU THINK ALL
GUNS SHOULD BE
NOT BE ALLOWED TO
USE GUNS AND
THEY SHOULD BE
REGULATED. DO YOU
ESPECIALLY FOR
LONG WORKERS TO
PROTECTING AND
DEFENDING OF THE
COMMUNITY?

IF THE WORKERS
IS JUST NOT
WELL. WHY DID
CHIEF - PERSON
WAIT SO LONG TO
CHANGE THE
COMMUNITY? I
WAS IT IS CALLED
TO THE COMMUNITY?

DO YOU THINK THAT
WITH ANY NAMES
THE USE OF GUNS
CAN BE OF USE TO
YOU? AND IF SO,
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE
TO HAVE IT REMOVED
FROM OUR
COMMUNITY?

Protocols for our
Community?
Keeping a Respectful
and Sacred Country
from an unrespectful
Medicine or High

The community
from fundamental
values and education
to help support our
the importance
of the community

How are we expected
to remain in the
with to make the
the + times of change
for the community
and the community



Community Summary Discussion Cannabis Conference and Discussion Forum

**Each group was tasked with questions from post-it notes (Parking Lot items) as talking points or were free to discuss organically.*

Community Facilitator: Patrick Madahbee

All agreed the themes are intertwined and connected.

1. **Education and Awareness** **Deadline: Immediate**
 - Safety of children and community utmost of importance
 - Economic Development
 - Jurisdiction
 - Consider a task force and frame the questions

2. **Pros and Cons of a Dispensary Conversation** **Deadline: March 1. 2019**
 - Audience response system
 - Community poll * Include registrations (off reserve) *coded
 - Ask for comments – those willing to have a dialogue
 - Do owners have valid/governed license and supplies
 - Frame questions
 - Economic impact
 - Different wording for Pros and Cons

3. **Legislation/Jurisdiction/Governance** **Deadline: 5 months and extend as you go- up until Summer**
 - Jurisdictional review
 - Governance – guidelines and facts
 - This will assist to make an informed decision
 - Bylaws
 - Constitution
 - Create a living document
 - Build and tweek the Bylaw as the years go on
 - It's important to provide a deadline to push it through to be completed

Discussions/Comments

- October 17 is the date the it will be legal for dispensaries; Question for the Police Chief Rodney, will it be legal to open a dispensary on the reserve?
- Yes, as long as its community-directed and they can legally open a dispensary
- Consensus must come from the community; but will this be over-rode when leadership changes?
- Will business owners be charged when they open up a dispensary?
- A referendum is needed – crucial, so that the entire membership is given an opportunity to have their say- but not to rush this.



COMMUNITY

Learning about
Indian Medicines
Bring back the
knowledge. ~~and~~
to teach it.

IF A DISPENSARY
OPENS IN RI, MUST
OR WILL THERE BE AN
INCREASE IN COMMERCIAL
ACTIVITY AND ITS
IMPACT ON OUR
COMMUNITY?

CIGARETTES
DANGER
Alcohol

"Community"
JOBS

How does
WANT CANNIBIS
JURISDICTION TO
LOOK LIKE IN
OUR COMMUNITY?
- self regulation
- funding

DO YOU THINK THE
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
HAS THE
RIGHT TO REGULATE
CANNIBIS? ~~AND~~

DO YOU AGREE WITH
THE MEASURES
THAT TRIPS TO PROTECT
WILSON MEMBERS IN
DRIVING OPPORTUNITY
IN DECIPHERING A
SUCCESSIONAL BUSINESS
WITH THE LEGALIZATION
OF CANNIBIS USE?

DO YOU THINK OUR
ECONOMIC DEVELOP-
MENT OFFICE SHOULD
LOOK INTO THE
OPPORTUNITIES AVAIL-
ABLE IN BRICKWORK GROWING
AND SUPPLYING OWNERS
WILL OTHER FIRST
NATIONS?

Do you think that by
having a dispensary in
WREAR, will reduce the
amount of drug dealers
in our community that
sell marijuana and other
street drugs?

Would you like the
land to become a
financial producer of
medical cannabis
as an economic devel-
opment opportunity?

Meet with the
Communal Elders
to Chat and get
their concerns
according to the
New Dispensary

Will the community
be better off if
we have a dispensary
in the future that
community engaged

How will we deal
with adults who
use drugs available
to youth as a
community issue
of marijuana

I have notice that
we've been talking
about the youth but
there has not been
any prescriptions given
to them. This would
seem to be a good
idea for
adults, teenagers

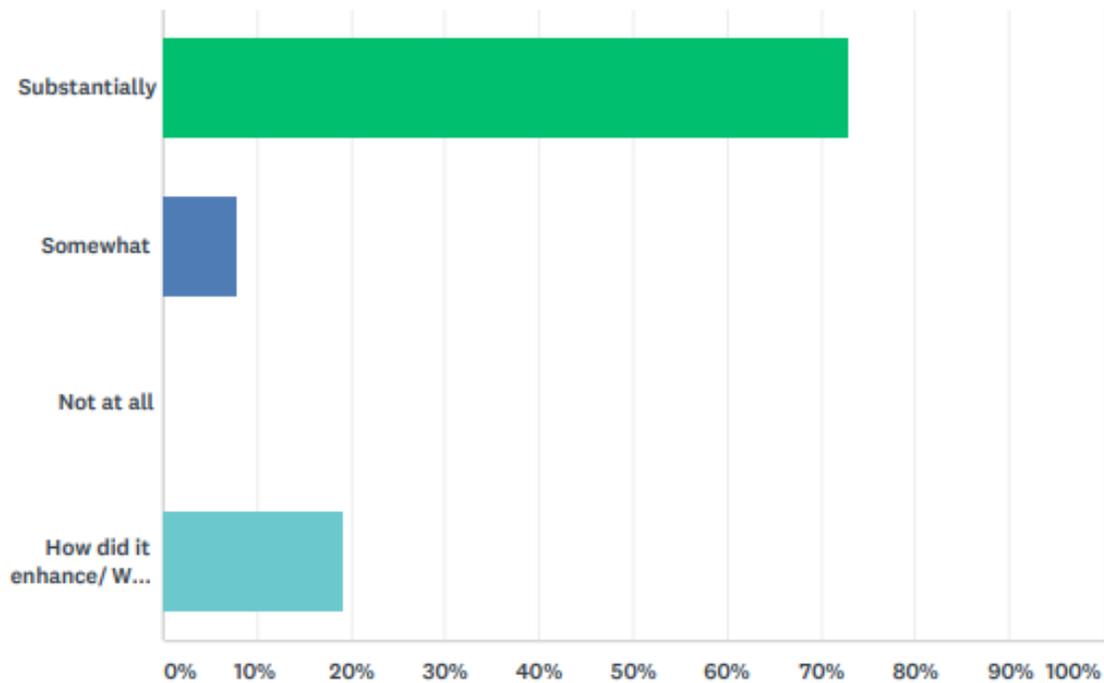


Overall Results from Conference Evaluations

The conference was a huge success! Overall 78% of people surveyed indicated that the conference enhanced their knowledge related to cannabis:

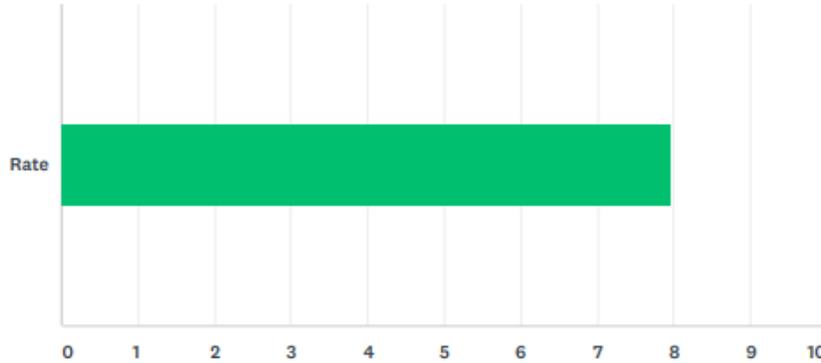
Overall, this conference opportunity enhanced my knowledge about cannabis:

Answered: 26 Skipped: 2



Q1 The conference met the objective of: Providing a public education forum for the upcoming legalization of cannabis

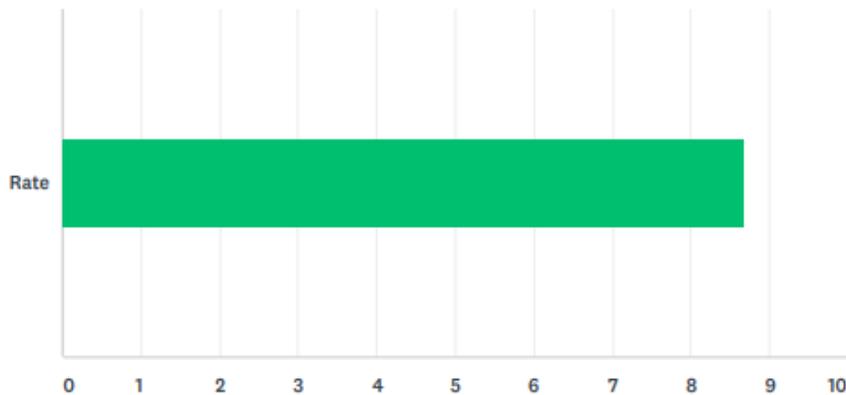
Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



	LOW	(NO LABEL)	MED	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Rate	0.00%	7.14%	7.14%	39.29%	46.43%	28	7.96
	0	2	2	11	13		

Q2 The conference met the objective of: Providing an initial introduction to cannabis use, effects, laws, and community impact.

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

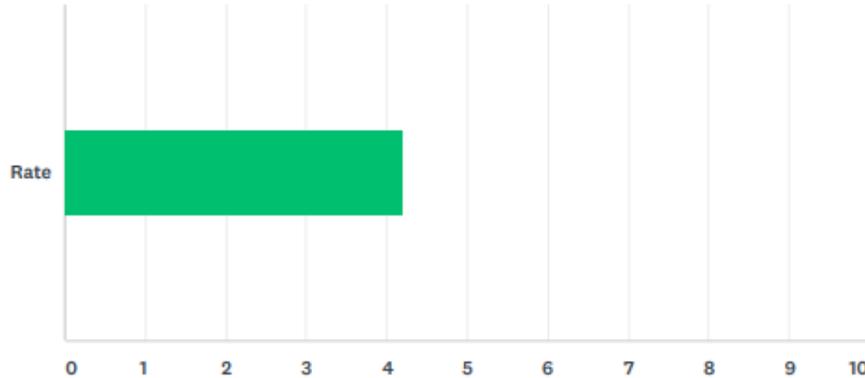


	LOW	(NO LABEL)	MED	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Rate	0.00%	7.14%	3.57%	21.43%	67.86%	28	8.68
	0	2	1	6	19		



Q3 The conference met the objective of: Providing a chance to network and exchange ideas

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



	LOW	(NO LABEL)	MED	(NO LABEL)	HIGH	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Rate	0.00%	7.14%	17.86%	21.43%	53.57%	28	4.21
	0	2	5	6	15		

- *The overall results of the conference were very favorable with beyond 80% reporting they felt the overall objectives were met.*
- *The community received public education that was favorable.*
- *There was a lower rating for (40%+) for networking and exchanging ideas, as there was not enough time. The Sunday conference activities were dedicated to community exchange of ideas, however, time was limited.*

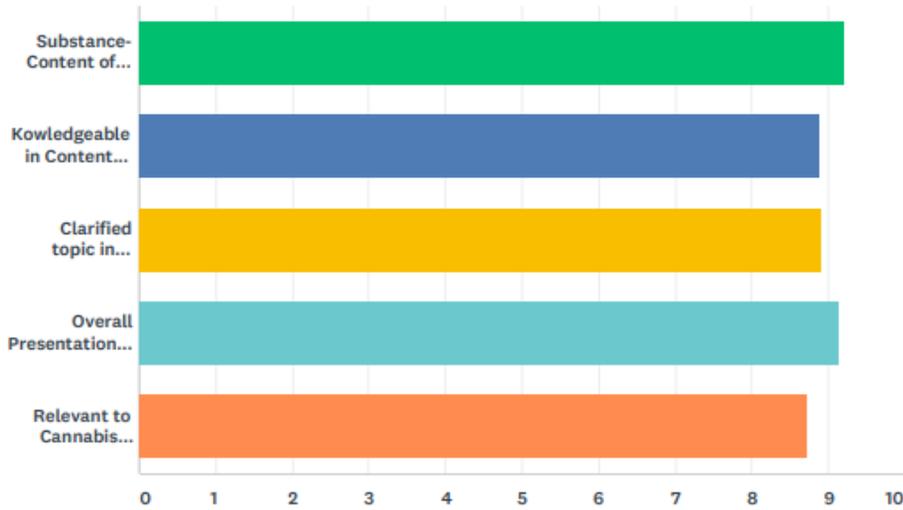


Rating Results for Individual Speakers

All conference speakers were rated very highly, which illustrates the valuable potential and ability of a committee in undertaking the planning for community education and knowledge dissemination in the future:

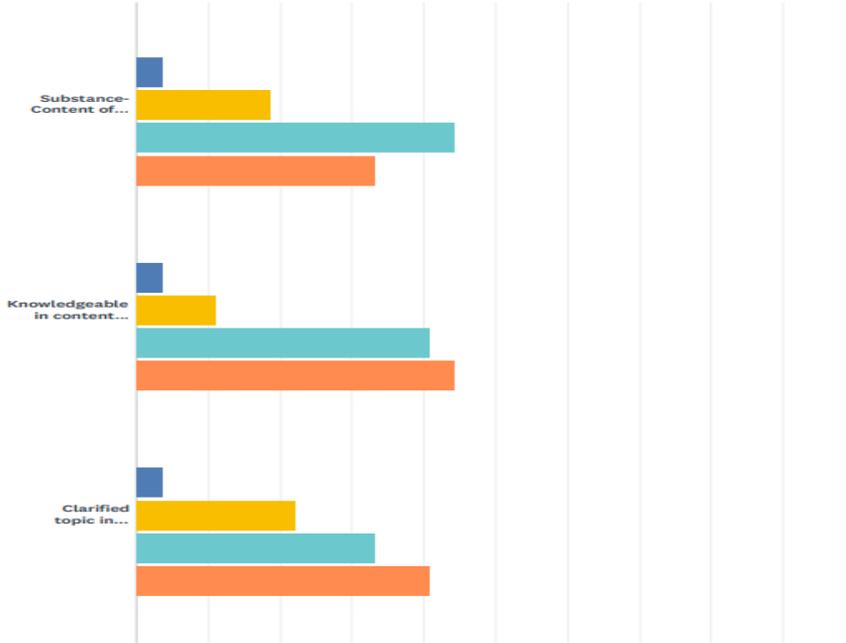
Q4 Speaker 1: Dr. Lionel- History of Cannabis, Medicinal vs. Recreational, Dispelling Myths

Answered: 26 Skipped: 2



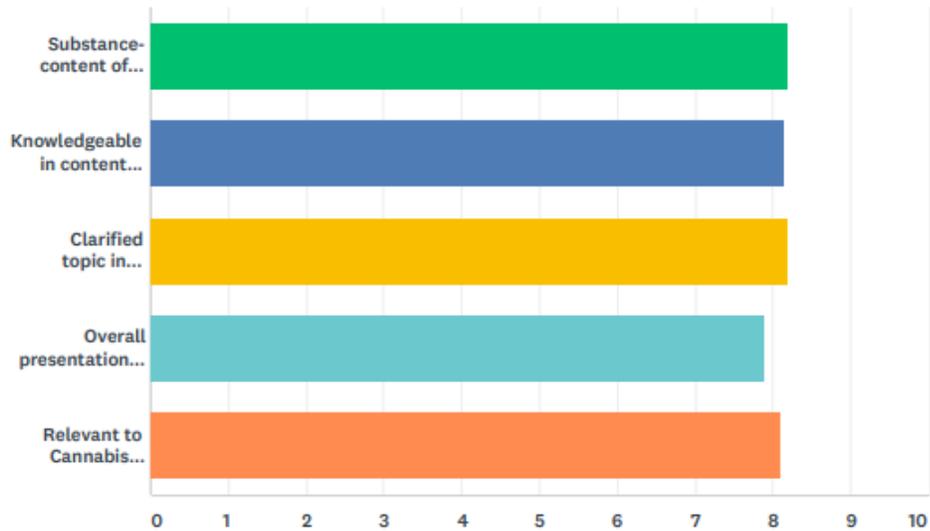
Q5 Speaker 2: Karianne Jones, RN, Public Health Sudbury District

Answered: 27 Skipped: 1



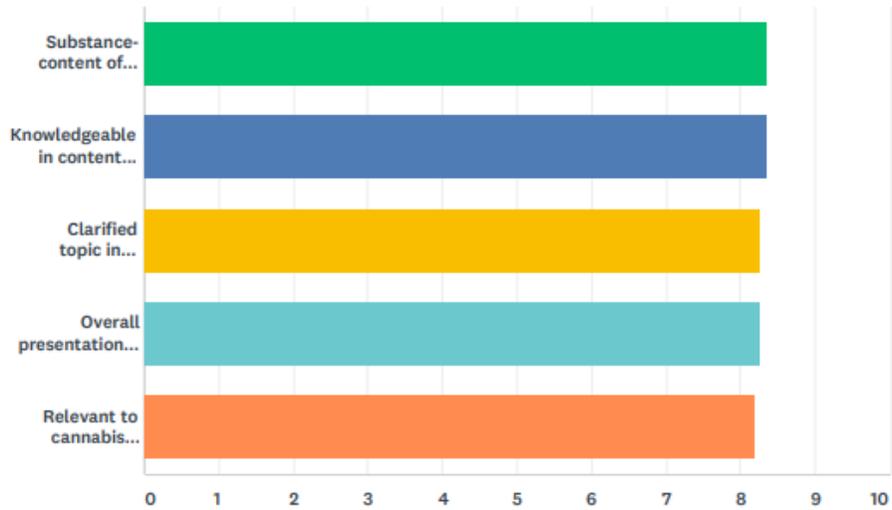
Q6 Speaker 3: Ashley Collins, Ministry of Attorney General, ONTARIO legislation

Answered: 24 Skipped: 4



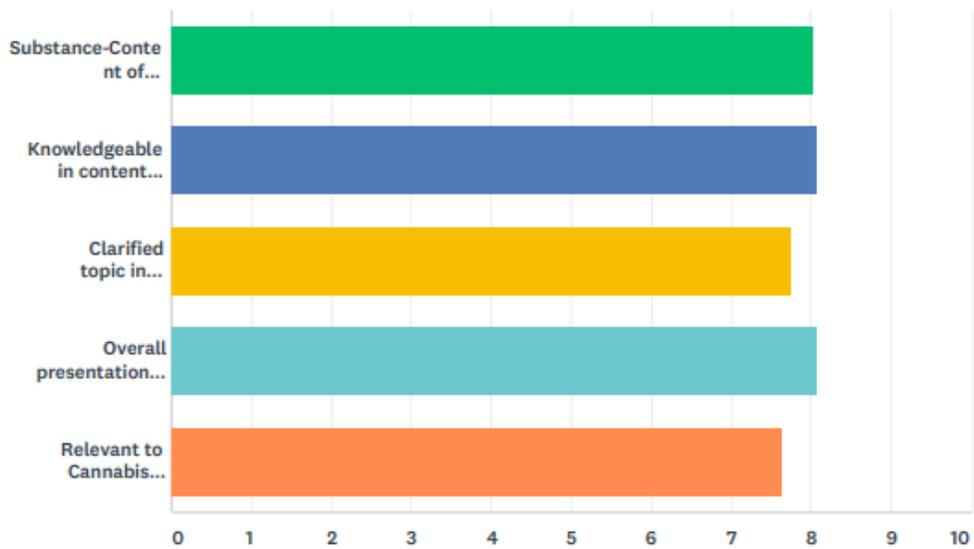
Q7 Speaker 4: Rodney Nahwegahbowm, UCCMM & Jerry Filopa, OPP-Laws

Answered: 26 Skipped: 2



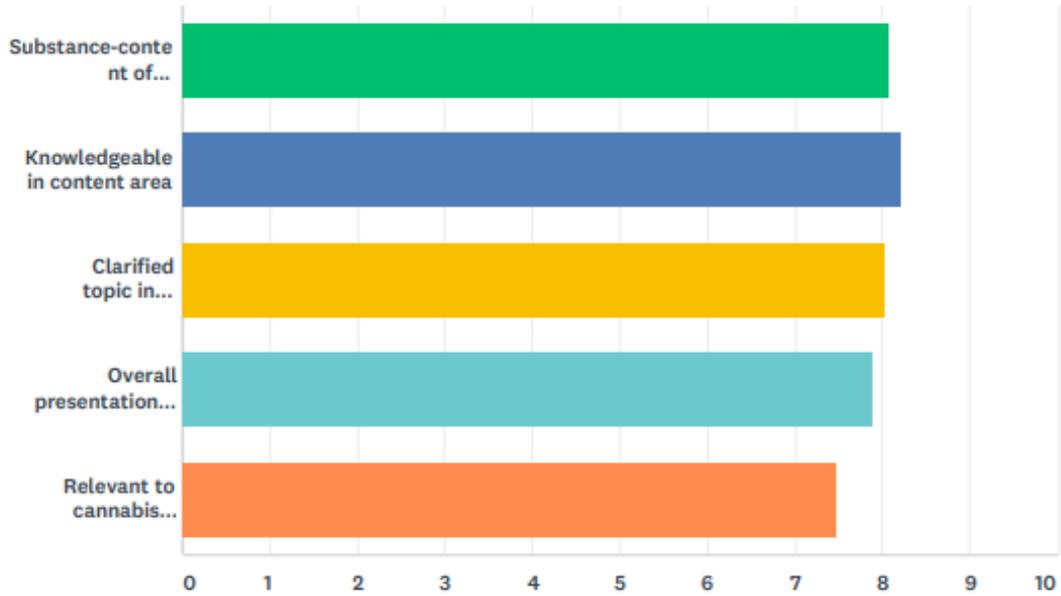
Q8 Speaker: Lori Lafontaine, Health Canada Federal ACT

Answered: 25 Skipped: 3



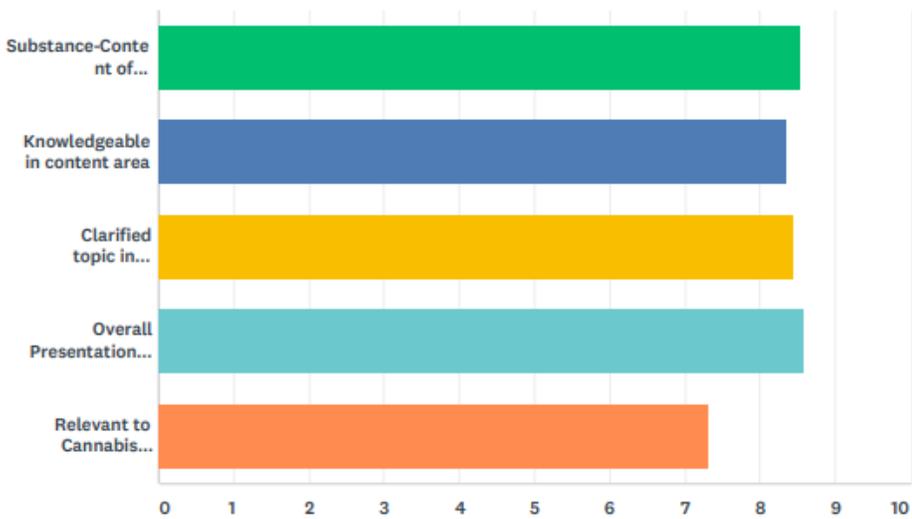
Q9 Kayla Hill, Tyendinaga Case Study

Answered: 26 Skipped: 2



Q10 Leslie McGregor, Whitefish River Health Services

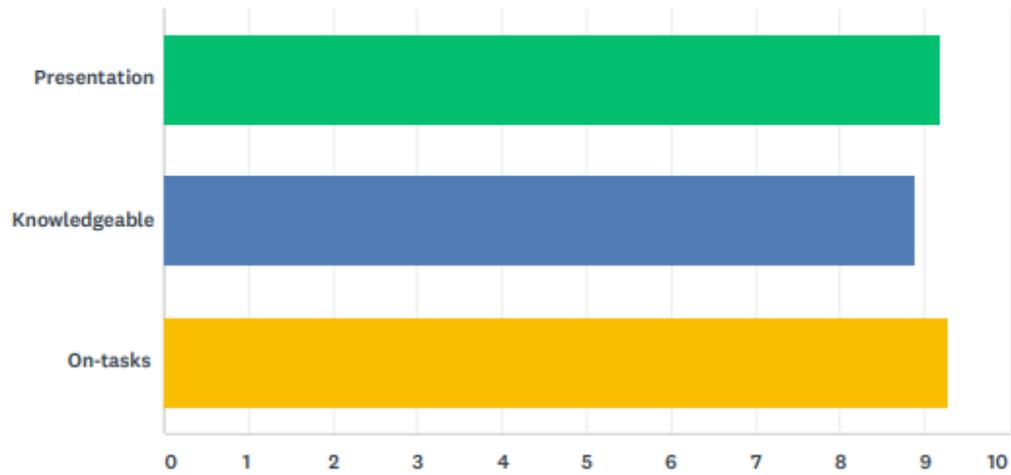
Answered: 26 Skipped: 2



M.C and Moderator Evaluations

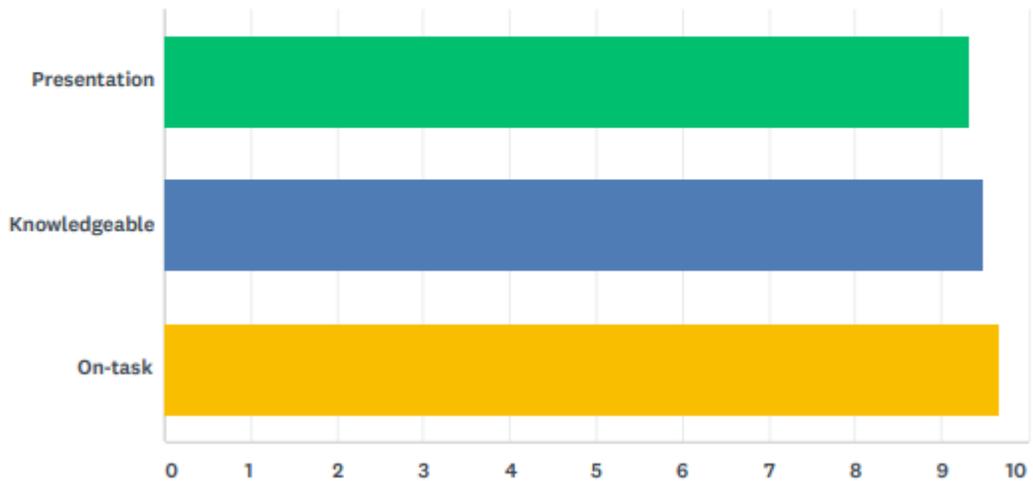
Q11 M.C Patrick Madahbee:

Answered: 27 Skipped: 1



Q12 Moderator: Mariette Sutherland

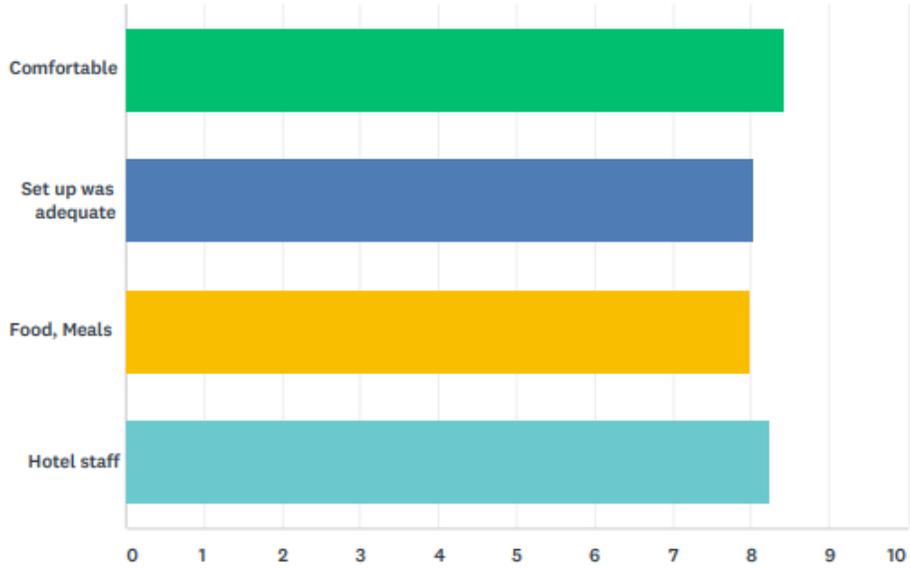
Answered: 27 Skipped: 1



Conference Facilities

Q13 Conference Facility, Food and Service Scores

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0

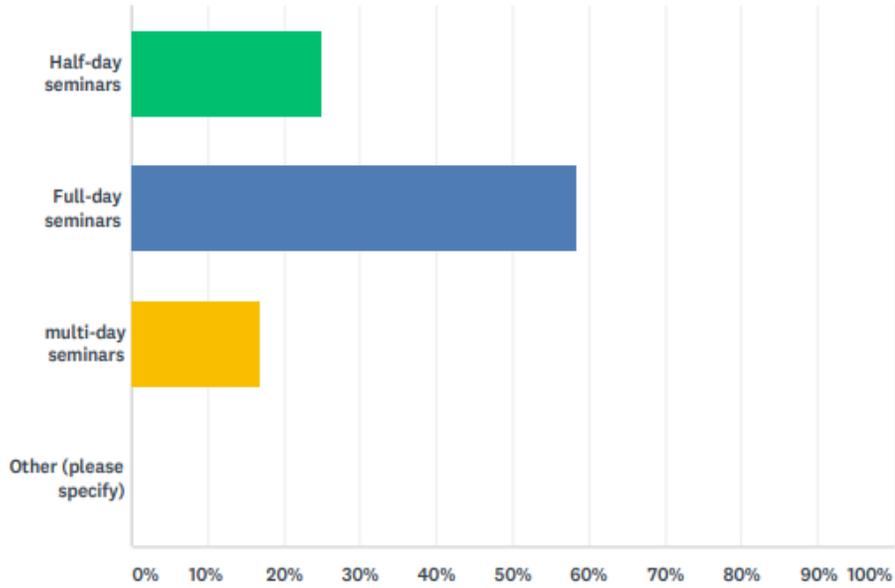


Public Education and Workshop Preferences

Length:

Q17 Do you prefer:

Answered: 24 Skipped: 4



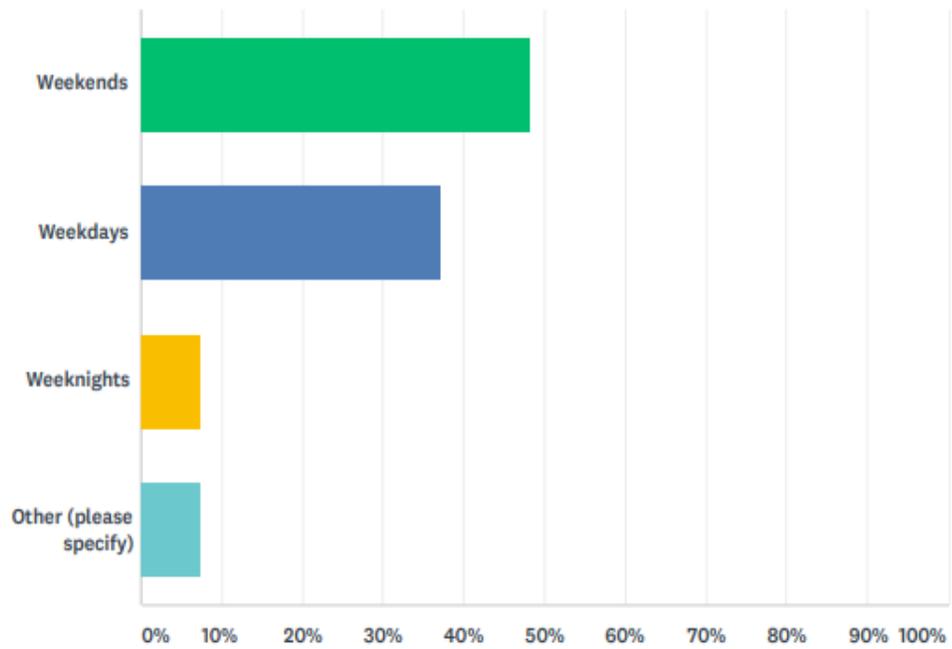
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Half-day seminars	25.00%	6
Full-day seminars	58.33%	14
multi-day seminars	16.67%	4
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		24



Time/Day Preferences:

Q18 Do you prefer:

Answered: 27 Skipped: 1

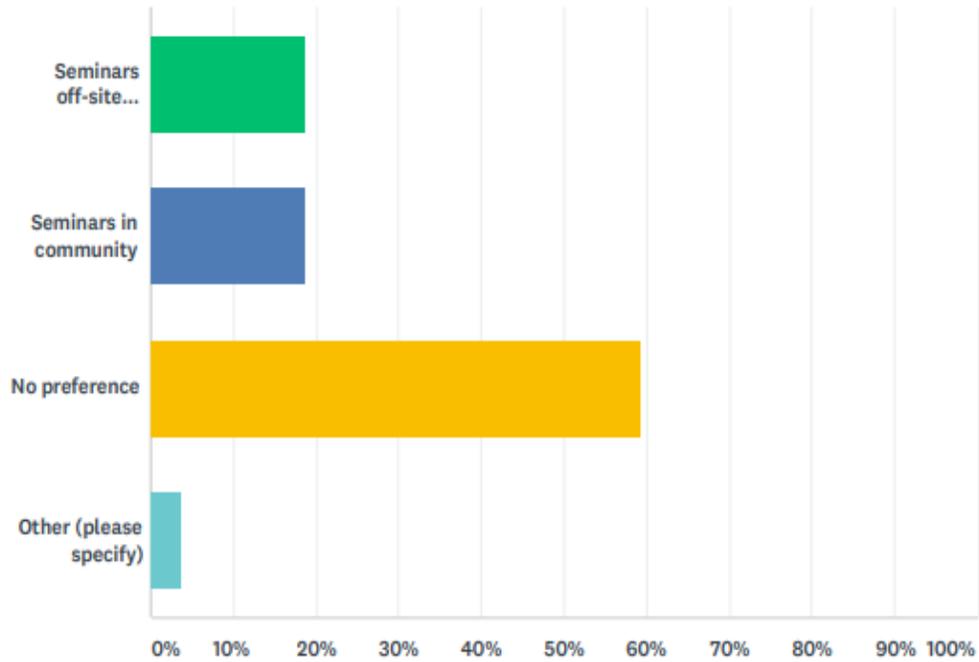


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Weekends	48.15%	13
Weekdays	37.04%	10
Weeknights	7.41%	2
Other (please specify)	7.41%	2
TOTAL		27



Q19 Do you prefer:

Answered: 27 Skipped: 1

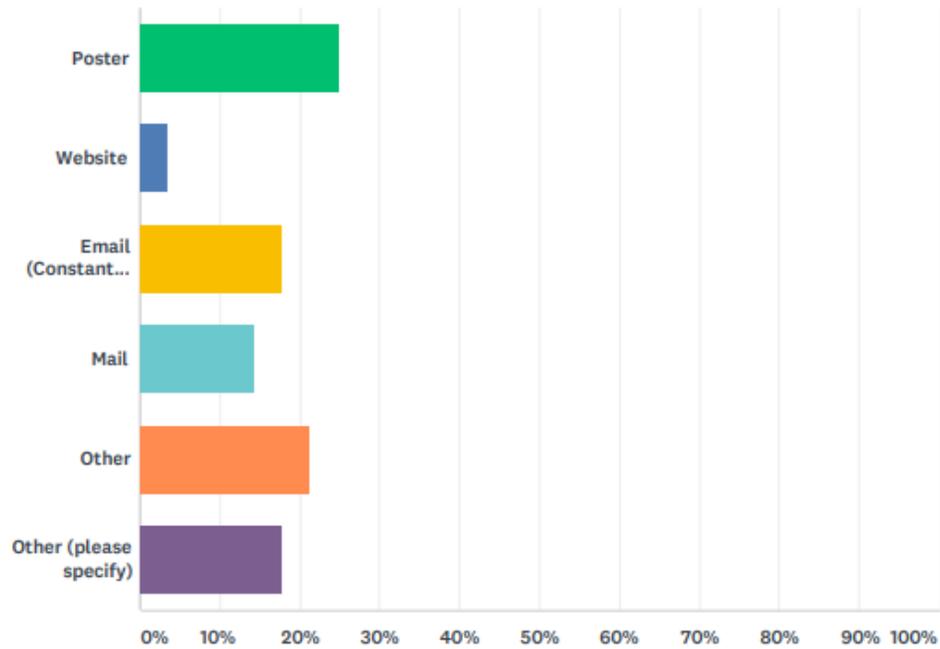


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Seminars off-site (alternative location)	18.52%	5
Seminars in community	18.52%	5
No preference	59.26%	16
Other (please specify)	3.70%	1
TOTAL		27



Q21 How did you learn about this conference

Answered: 28 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Poster	25.00%	7
Website	3.57%	1
Email (Constant Contact)	17.86%	5
Mail	14.29%	4
Other	21.43%	6
Other (please specify)	17.86%	5
TOTAL		28

Many people learned through the Poster and Emails. Individuals who marked “other” were through Social Media and is the third largest way of learning about this conference.



Conclusion

Without a doubt, Whitefish River First Nation came together in a unique setting and accomplished the joint objectives of a) learning about cannabis and 2) determining ways forward. In just a few short days, the answers came as a result of great speakers who were invited to participate in the community educational sessions and importantly, a chance to reflect on this new knowledge away from the community setting.

It is striking how the dedication to harnessing community ideals, perspectives, and needs in a short but dedicated time-frame could result in a well-defined future approach. This includes:

- 1) Ongoing cannabis /addiction education
- 2) Task-force formation- cannabis and addictions
- 3) Support for the development of specific-WRFN policies, regulations and by-laws concerning cannabis

Of course, this solid and strong approach could not have been brought to the forefront without the help of the spirit of the ancestors, the use of the medicine and prayers and a clear values-based approach that recognizes the fact that:

- “We are a friendly, educated and forward-thinking community.”
- “Great things happen when we stand up together.”
- “Exercise our sovereignty- rights.”

For the next stage of development related to cannabis /addictions education, WRFN has steadily moved towards realizing many of the objectives and recommendations as a result of community input. It will be up to the Task Force, any employees dedicated to this initiative and the Chief and Council to keep this excellent momentum moving positively and progressively.

This momentum can be facilitated through the use of new survey knowledge about community member’s preferences for future educational sessions. It is clear from the pre-conference survey that there are many people who are uncertain about many cannabis and substance issues and could benefit from further education. Importantly, it is good to keep in mind that at some point in time, many people have tried substances or been addicted in the past and therefore, to keep the approach respectful.

On a final note, Whitefish River First Nation has developed a successful community engagement model and knowledge exchange opportunity with the use of a conference approach and the use of both written and video formats as a means of transmitting information. This guidance will be used to deliver and design high quality programs and policies for the benefit of WRFN members in the future and to share with others who may ask.

